

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 28, 2009

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 21, 2009

SENATE BILL

No. 369

Introduced by Senator Maldonado

(Coauthors: Senators Correa and Negrete McLeod)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Bill Berryhill, Gilmore, Jeffries, and Silva)

February 25, 2009

An act to amend Section 1831 of the Military and Veterans Code, relating to the POW/MIA Flag.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 369, as amended, Maldonado. Prisoner-of-War/Missing-in-Action Flag: state-owned buildings and facilities.

Existing law requires the flag of the National League of POW/MIA Families to be flown over specified state buildings where the United States flag and the California state flag currently fly on certain dates during business hours.

This bill would instead require the flag to be flown during business hours at all state-owned buildings and facilities where the United States flag and the California state flag ~~currently~~ fly, *as specified*.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 1831 of the Military and Veterans Code
- 2 is amended to read:

1 1831. (a) So that the people of California will not forget the
2 sacrifices of those members of the United States Armed Forces
3 who, after the termination of hostilities, remain prisoners of war
4 or are missing in action, as well as the sacrifices of missing United
5 States nonmilitary personnel and civilians, the Governor shall
6 annually proclaim the third Friday of September to be known as
7 Prisoner-of-War/Missing-in-Action (POW/MIA) Recognition Day.

8 (b) The flag of the National League of POW/MIA Families
9 (POW/MIA Flag) is a black and white banner symbolizing those
10 members of the United States Armed Forces who are listed as
11 POW or MIA. The flag serves as a powerful reminder to people
12 everywhere of our country's firm resolve to achieve the fullest
13 possible accounting for every member of the United States Armed
14 Forces, and United States nonmilitary personnel and civilians. ~~To~~
15 ~~the extent it is structurally feasible, the~~ *The* flag shall be flown
16 during business hours, at all state-owned buildings or facilities
17 where the United States flag and the California state flag ~~currently~~
18 ~~fly. fly, if the flag can be attached to existing flagpoles or other~~
19 ~~existing structures on which the United States flag or California~~
20 ~~flag fly. The state may accept donations of POW/MIA flags and~~
21 ~~related materials.~~

22 (c) The flag shall be flown at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial
23 located on the grounds of the State Capitol whenever the United
24 States flag is flown at that location.

25 (d) Additionally, the Governor and the Legislature are authorized
26 and requested to issue proclamations calling upon the people,
27 schools, and local governments of California to recognize
28 POW/MIA Recognition Day with appropriate ceremonies and
29 activities.